



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR PORT LAVACA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**PORT LAVACA, TEXAS, January 9, 2006--** Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that Port Lavaca Volunteer Fire Department was selected to receive \$10,800 through the agency's Community Facilities Grant Program. The grant funds will be combined with funding from the Texas Forestry Service to purchase a 2006 Freightliner Fire Truck.

"This funding will provide the Port Lavaca Volunteer Fire Department with the equipment necessary to keep pace with the needs of their community," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing assistance to rural towns and communities to help them provide valuable services to their residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, a total of \$991,000 in Community Facility Grants was obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Edna Local Office at (361) 782-7151, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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